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impassive as is that of M. Guizot should be more strongly attracted by such a writer as Mr. Hallam than by Lord Macaulay. In the same chapter there are also interesting notices of Lord Lansdowne, Daniel O'Connell, Mrs. Grote, Mrs. Fry, and of many other persons, beside some well-considered observations on the general character and tone of social life in England. Of Lords Palmerston and Melbourne there is no special portraiture; but the French ambassador readily took their measure, and it is easy to perceive, from the general tenor of his remarks, what is his exact estimate of them. In the introductory chapter he records his first impressions of England, and incidentally, but clearly, points out the relative positions of the aristocracy and the democracy in the English government; and in his third chapter he describes at length the part which he took in settling the quarrel between England and Naples in regard to the exportation of sulphur from the island of Sicily, and the measures adopted to procure the consent of the English government to the removal of the remains of the Emperor Napoleon I. from St. Helena. But the chief theme of M. Guizot's narrative, and that which gives to it its chief historical value, is the Eastern Question, as it was called, growing out of the rival claims of the Ottoman Porte and the Viceroy of Egypt. Of the various negotiations connected with this question, and of the policy of the French government, he presents a very luminous and satisfactory account, with ample citations from the official despatches, and minute records of the conversations held by him with Lord Palmerston and the different members of the diplomatic body in London. Beside the documents cited in the text, there is an Appendix of "Historical Documents," covering about seventy pages. The translation is apparently executed with care; but much of the ease and dignity of M. Guizot's style is lost to the English reader.

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3. — *Irish History and Irish Character.* By GOLDWIN SMITH. Second Edition. Oxford and London: J. H. and James Parker. 1862. 12mo. pp. 197.

THIS essay, which is "an expansion of a lecture delivered before the Oxford Architectural and Historical Society at their Annual Meeting in June, 1861," amply confirms the very high estimate of Professor Smith's depth and vigor of intellect, of his candor and fairness of judgment, and of the soundness of his historical theories, which we were led to form while reading his "Lectures on Modern History," noticed in our last number; and in one respect we have been agree-



ably disappointed in it. In the earlier volume, his style was, for the most part, hard, dry, and inflexible, and ill suited for animated narration or the vivid portraiture of character; but in the eloquent discourse before us, we have no occasion to regret any of these defects. Mr. Smith's style is throughout easy, graceful, and flowing, while it has not lost any of its clearness, vigor, and simplicity. His essay, or "sketch," as he calls it in a brief Preface, comprises a rapid summary of Irish history from its earliest period to the present time, together with a statement of the chief elements of Irish character, designed to show the sources of the calamities of Ireland, and the remedies for the evils under which she still languishes. Chief among the former, he places "the partial character of the Norman Conquest, which caused the conquerors, instead of becoming an upper class, to remain a mere hostile settlement or Pale," and led to the continual wars and cruel enactments which date from that period. "The next great source of mischief," he thinks, "was the disruption of Christendom at the period of the Reformation, and the terrible religious wars which ensued upon that disruption, and into which both nations, in common with the other nations of Europe, were drawn." To the hostility of race was added the hostility of religion; and the dominant minority attempted to strengthen themselves by the passage of laws dooming three fourths of the people to the most abject ignorance, while frequent murders and massacres may also be traced to the same prolific source of evil. "Then Ireland became a victim to the attempt of Louis XIV., which was in part a sequel of the religious wars, to destroy the liberty and religion of England through his vassals, the House of Stuart." The subjugation of Ireland by William III., and the long train of subsequent evils, are among the fruits of this source of disaster to the hapless island. "Finally," he says, "the French Revolution, breaking out into anarchy, massacre, and atheism, at the moment when the government of England, under Pitt, had just entered on the path of reform and toleration, not only arrested political progress in this as in other cases, but involved Ireland in another civil war." The failure of Catholic Emancipation at the time of the legislative Union of Great Britain and Ireland, and its postponement for nearly thirty years, were the direct effects of the reaction in England occasioned by the excesses of the French Revolution.

Of the Established Church of Ireland our author writes with a boldness and frankness which, if it had been exhibited a quarter of a century ago, would have cost him his Professorship. After speaking of the adverse circumstances in which the Church has been placed, and of the difficulties with which it has to contend,—such as "the



political hostility of the races, the difference of language, the abuse of patronage, which often employed Irish bishoprics and livings as political bribes, or as lucrative banishments for not the best of the clergy of the English Church, — a ritual cold, tedious, and formal, suited perhaps to the sober Saxon, but wholly unsuited to the ardent Kelt," — he adds this pregnant remark: "But the grand and apparently insuperable difficulty with which it has had to contend is in effect this, that Christianity cannot be propagated through unchristian institutions, and that the State Church of a dominant minority is an institution which, being unjust, must be unchristian." In another place he is scarcely less emphatic in the expression of his opinions on this subject. "The hold of the Irish Establishment on the religious affections of the Irish people is a garrison of twenty thousand men. At that price England purchases a source of just discontent and perpetual disaffection. At that price she makes the national clergy of Ireland demagogues, and the national religion of Ireland an enemy to social harmony, to political tranquillity, and to the unity of the empire. At that price she draws upon herself just opprobrium and constant peril. Those who think that this will go on forever must either have formed a singular estimate of the tendencies of the age, or expect that those tendencies will be suddenly reversed."

In speaking of the present condition and prospects of Ireland, Mr. Smith remarks that "there are four relations in which Ireland may be placed with regard to the sister island, — dependency, independence, federation, and union." A return to either of the first two, or an adoption of the third, he considers as undesirable and impracticable; and in respect to the second he makes these most suggestive observations: "Independence would of course be feasible in itself, if it could only be accompanied by geographical separation; but so close a neighborhood would involve contact, and contact would bring on collision: rivalry, jealousy, hostility, would spring up all the more certainly, because there would be between the two countries the memory of a former union, and of a recent divorce; and Ireland, menaced by the power of England, would become the ward and vassal of France, or some other foreign power, which for its own purposes would constitute itself her protector." Nothing but the relation of union remaining, it is clear that the plain duty of England is, "to endeavor, by the abolition of every relic of ascendancy and ancient misgovernment, to render it perfectly fair, honorable, and beneficial to both nations."

In his manner of dealing with these important questions, and the numerous other exciting topics which he has occasion to discuss, we



have abundant evidence of Mr. Smith's intellectual candor and of his complete mastery of his subject. Nowhere else have we seen in so brief a paper so luminous and comprehensive a statement of the salient points in Irish history, or so just an analysis of the causes of the long-continued debasement of the Irish people.

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4. — *The Leadbeater Papers. — The Annals of Ballitore, by MARY LEADBEATER, with a Memoir of the Author: Letters from Edmund Burke, heretofore unpublished: and the Correspondence of Mrs. R. Trench and Rev. George Crabbe with MARY LEADBEATER.* London: Bell and Daldy. 1862. 2 vols. 16mo. pp. 441, 403.

MARY LEADBEATER was the granddaughter of Abraham Shackleton, Burke's early teacher, and was born at Ballitore, in the county of Kildare, Ireland, in December, 1758. In 1791 she married William Leadbeater, who had also been a pupil at Ballitore; and three years afterward she began her literary career by the publication of "Extracts and Original Anecdotes for the Improvement of Youth." Subsequently she published a collection of her own "Poems," two series of "Cottage Dialogues of the Irish Peasantry," "The Landlord's Friend," "Cottage Biography," and "Memoirs of Richard and Elizabeth Shackleton." Such, indeed, was her taste for literary pursuits, that she continued her labors until a week before her death, which occurred on the 27th of June, 1826. During her lifetime her writings enjoyed much popularity, and were strongly commended by several competent critics; but they are now quite forgotten, and even her name was scarcely remembered. Yet she was a woman of much natural ability, of a refined and cultivated taste, and greatly esteemed and beloved by her friends, as is sufficiently shown by the two volumes now published, and by the affectionate terms in which she is mentioned in the recently published *Literary Remains of Mrs. Richard Trench*.

The first of the two volumes now before us consists of an autobiographical sketch of Mrs. Leadbeater's life, from 1766 to 1824, together with much other matter of a less personal interest, under the general title of "Annals of Ballitore." It is pleasantly written, and comprises some graphic descriptions of the scenery of Ballitore and of the mode of life there, as well as a very vivid account of the Rebellion of 1798. But, with the exception of the pages devoted to the latter subject, the volume contains very little which is of sufficient permanent interest or worth to justify its publication. The second volume opens with a correspondence between Edmund Burke and